GARFIELD, HON H A [UNITED STATES FUEL CONTROLLER] October 1918 (047)

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October 4th, 1918

Hon. H. A. Garfield,

United States Fuel Controller.

Dear Sir:

In the University of Toronto we find ourselves in difficulties with regard to the supply of hard coal, and as far as we have information there does not seem to be much likelihood of our receiving any before the cold weather comes upon us. In these circumstances I am taking the very unusual course of writing directly to you to see whether it would be possible to give authority to our agent to have coal brought direct to us.

In May last we placed an order for thirteen hundred tons of anthracite coal with F. P. Weaver Coal Company, the coal to be delivered in July. As only two hundred tons were delivered the matter was taken up with the Fuel Controller in Toronto, who referred us to the Fuel Controller at Ottawa, and then to the Controller of Pittsburgh, and eventually back to the starting point, but so far without any result.

The Weaver Company informs us that most of the coal billed against this for the University of Toronto has been commandeered before reaching Canada. I may say that the amount of anthracite coal that we burn in the University is small compared with the bituminous coal which we use in our Central Heating Plant, but several buildings not connected with this plant are heated by small hot water heating and are residences chiefly for women students.

I may say also that the war work done in

the University of Toronto is very extensive. Out of thirty-five buildings sixteen are wholly or in part occupied by the Royal Air Force, the Canadian Army Medical Corps, the Officers Training Company, the Invalided Soldiers' Commission, the Functional Re-educational of soldiers, and other war organisations.

I may add further that during the past two winters on two occasions we have for short periods been compelled to close the University in part through lack of coal supply. In these circumstances you will pardon me for approaching you directly in the hope that the University may be given as full consideration as possible.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.